HEAR YE!

versed in the Sacred Scriptures, hands ined passages as descriptive of the fation of the people of this great country bligations incumbent on them towards d themselves for such signal manifesta. Divine goodness. All considerate minds ve, we think, that the admonitions adthe great Jewish law-giver to his waystrymen are strikingly applicable at this ur own, and may be appropriately offered ction on a day which should be devoted to ation of good resolutions.

therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily. Lord God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the that floweth with milk and honey.

nd thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine hear

with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down,

and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

And theu shalt write them upon the posts of thy house,

and on thy gates.

And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought

thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly

cities, which thou buildest not,

And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not,
and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and
olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;
Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee

forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the Lord: that it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest go in and possess the good land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers,

To cast out all thine enemies from before thee, as the Lord

And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What mean the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord our God hath commanded you?

Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand:
And the Lord shewed signs and wonders, great and sore,

upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring

us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers. And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as it is at this day.

And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the Lord our God, as he hath

The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you,

because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people;

But because the Lord loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh, king

of Egypt.

Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day to

do them.

Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers :

And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he

sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

Thou shalt be blessed above all people; there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.

And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate

Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed

One of the most unhappy evidences of the rancor of the Disunion disease, wherever it prevails, is to be heard from to about 21,000. Increase in the the Treasury .- Correspondence N. V. Courier. its effect upon the comity and truthfulness of the public press. In South Carolina, for example, so far as our observation and memory serve us, hardly a single journal gave to its readers an opportunity of judging for themselves of the state of the affairs | 360.811, and the Marshal estimates that the same of the Nation as disclosed in the President's Annual Message to Congress. Some of the papers, indeed, published a paragraph or two of it, as if that small allowance was sufficient to slake the thirst of their readers in the pursuit of knowledge. Others considered it entirely too insignificant a document to interest the people of any State aspiring to the high dignity of member of a Southern Confederacy. They said as much, in fact, or what was tantamount to it. The Charleston "Mercury" showed its disposition to sneer at every thing emanating from the General Government, by speaking of the Message-certainly one of the most interesting as well as able papers which has ever been presented to Congress by the Executive-as " the essence of respectable platitude and constitutional ding-dong;" and the "News." another Charleston paper laboring under the same disease, intimated, as a suitable comment upon its patriotic sentiments, that President FILLMORE might yet learn that there is no idolatrous devotion to the Union in South Carolina!

There are-generally, it may be hoped, by accident-many things published in the Nullification, Secession, and Disunion papers of the South, calculated to alarm and exasperate the People, having no more truth in them than the following:

PROM THE MONTGOMERY (ALA.) ADVERTISER OF DEC. 17. VERMONT NULLIFICATION ACT .- We present 'this act, in full, below. Vermont has taken the 'lead; other States will follow. The Indiana · Constitutional Convention, now in session, voted down a proposition to recognise the Fugitive peaceable secessionists. Our people are for the · Slave Law. These things are indeed startling, ' and are a true index of what the South has to ex-' pect as long as she remains in the Union.'

The action of the Indiana Convention was, as all our readers know, directly the reverse of what it is represented to have be n by this Montgomery

Another case, in the same paper of the 24th in-

stant, is represented in the following form: "Onto. - Resolutions have been introduced into the Le gislature of this State, condemning, in the strongest terms, the Fugitive Stave Bill, and instructing their Senators and requesting their Representatives in Congress to use their best endeavors to have said law repealed.' We think it quite likely they will be passed, notwithstanding the fact that has gone forth from Seward & Co. that it would be best to

stop agitation for awhile, for fear the South MIGHT wake up. The Resolutions described in this paragraph were promptly laid on the table by a decisive majority; and both events (their introduction and their fate) were chronicled in the same Telegraphic despatch.

COLONIZATION .- A proposition is before the Legislature of Kentucky to appropriate \$5,000 each year, for five years, to be employed under the direction of the Kentucky Colonization Society, in removing the free blacks from that State and colonizing them in Africa.

A LETTER FROM MISSISSIPPI.

We are permitted by a Representative in Congress from one of the Southwestern States to publish, for the information of our readers, the following Letter from a resident of the State of Mississippi, who is vouched to us to be "a citizen of high haracter and a good judge of public opinion.' We use this permission, omitting from it a passage or two, which might appear to have a personal

HOLLY SPRINGS, (MISS.) DECEMBER 16, 1850. DEAR SIR: I have seen and read our President's Message with great pleasure. It is a noble document, replete with ism, sound sense, and manly statesmanship. It is conceived and expressed with a clearness and frankness that does onor to the head and the heart of the author. It will go far o allay the excitement at the South which has threatened to

sever the Union, and, if followed by a corresponding spirit in Congress, must and will restore peace and quiet to the I thought, when I removed from your State, that I would not again take part in the political struggles of my countryen; but the signs of the times have been such for some months past that I could not resist the calls upon me. I have nsequently taken part in the movements here for the preervation of the Union. It affords me pleasure to assure you hat the ultra sentiments of our Governor, in his late Message, find no approving response from the people of this State. They would vote him down to morrow, if they had

chance at him, three or four to one. We had quite an animated debate lately during the session of the Federal Court at Pontotoc. Judge Gholson took ultra ground, insisting upon important amendments to the Federal Constitution as the only condition to a continuance of the Union. Such is the position of Governor QUITMAN, and a few other leaders scheme is beyond all question now on foot to bring about dissolution of the Union. But few of the projectors come oldly up to the work. South Carolina boldly avows her object, and some few of her coadjutors in Mississippi, and ome of the other States, openly avow a similar purpose. But the great mass of operators in this war upon the Union and a little in the back ground, slightly shaded. They deny the charge of disunion with great apparent indignation, but at the same time they indulge in all sorts of abuse of the Union. They charge the Government with robbing the South. Its whole machinery is charged with being in the hands of our enemies, and directed with a fixed purpose to degrade and dishonor the South. Such charges are too plain be misunderstood. If I had half as bad an opinion of the Fovernment as these professed friends of the Union, I should have been for disunion long ago. That there are men at the North, and perhaps a great many of them, who would rejoice for a while at least at a dissolution of the Union, and are la-

boring to bring it about, is perhaps true; but that is no reason why we should do the same thing. The fact that fanatic and traitors are found at the North furnishes no excuse for naticism and treason at the South. On the contrary, it calls loudly for opposite feeling and purposes. Instead, therefore, of applying the torch to the noble pile at the South because raitors do the same at the North, we should rather rally to the aid of the Government, and unite our efforts with patriots. North and South, to beat back and overcome the invaders of our political sanctuary. That is the way the Union men in this State think and talk; and when such sentiments are uttered to the farmers and boys from the hills it would do your heart good to hear them cheer and shout.

Old party walls are down, and old party names are fast be ming obsolete. The Union and Disunion parties are rapidly taking the place of all other distinctions. And nothing in the world can prevent the triumph of the former in our elections ext summer but some false move on the part of Congress. repeat, if the President's Message is met by a corresponding one of feeling and action in Congress, all will be well. Should that not be the case, God only can see the issue. Those of us who adhere to the Union have done so upon the express condition that the Fugitive Slave Law remains upon the statute book, and be executed. Whenever it is repealed, or the Government fails to enforce it, the whole Union party South stand pledged to apply the remedy, cost what it may. They would trample the Union under their feet.

CENSUS OF VERMONT .- Official census returns from all the towns in the State, with the exception of eight in Rutland county, show the present population to be 303,190-a gain in ten years of 20.668. This will be increased by the eight towns | will be accepted until Mr. Hall reports to the Secretary of last ten years, about 7 1-10 per cent.

POPULATION OF MISSOURI. - The census has been completed in fifty counties of MISSOURI. These fifty counties contain a population of ratio of increase will make the total population 672,000. In 1840 the total population of the State was 383,702; so that, if the estimate be correct, the increase has been 288,000 in ten years.

The Census Returns exhibit some curious facts in regard to population. For instance, in Pike county, Kentucky, there is a family, the husband's age 25, the wife's 21, in which there are five children, the eldest 10 years, the youngest one month old. The Assistant Marshal challenges the world to beat it. The 7th Ward of Boston equals if it does not beat the above, viz: the husband is 35, the wife 25; five children-the eldest 14, the voungest 4 years. But there is a family in Muskingum county, Ohio, containing fourteen children-the husband is 72 years old, the wife 42, the ages of the children being 21, 20, 19, 16, 14, 12, 10, 9, 8, 6, two boys, twins, 4 years, and two daughters, twins, 7 months old, which we think pears off the palm.

THE UNION .- There has been no lack of appeals to the Southern people within the last twelve months to desert the Union of our fathers and destroy the Constitution. Disunion and peaceable secession have been advocated by many in different States. But when the storm was most terrible the people of Tennessee have shown a union of feeling and sentiment in favor of this glorious Union of States worthy of the truest patriots. This feeling prevails throughout old Franklin, and we can assure our friends elsewhere that the people here are sound upon the Union question. There is not in Franklin county, in our opinion, (and we think we understand public sentiment here,) twenty-five Union, and are willing to acquiesce in the compromise; and, being thus disposed, they have more sense than to render themselves ridiculous by always grumbling and growling about one or two measures which they possibly do not like, and then, after exhausting their wrath, say, "I will acquiesce." No, they were for the compromise all the time; they are for the Union now, and when that is de-

stroyed they will go with it.
[Winchester (Tenn.) Independent.

It must be acknowledged that recent developments exhibit a very happy state of sentiment among he masses of the North, as well as in the halls of Congress, and give us great reason to hope that we re now to have a long and peaceful era, in which eagle. each section will treat with respect and forbearance the rights and interests of the other.

For ourselves, we believe the South should plant itself firmly upon the Constitution and the Compromises of the last session of Congress. We have no idea that any body of men which may meet in a National Convention will be able "to form a more perfect Union" than that which we now possess. On the contrary, while we properly appreciate the national sentiments expressed by Gov. Floyd, we are afraid that the South will not be settled by the arrangement he proposes. We lo not in the least question his loyalty to the South, but no Convention can be raised in this day which will bring forth better fruits than that which framed the American Constitution .- Richmond Republican.

A SCRAP OF HISTORY.

THE OLD DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE, FROM HIGH

FROM THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER OF DECEMBER 10, 1808. "On Thursday last the Electors of Virginia dined together at the Swan Tavern, in this city. The Madison Corresponding Committee and the Governor of Virginia were their guests. These entlemen, coming from different parts of the State, and bringing with them the sentiments of the People, many of them distinguished Whigs of the Revolution, assembled in harmony and unity to interchange the emotions of friendship at this interesting crisis of our public affairs. Every thing was conducted in the most orderly and dignified man-ner. It was all 'the Feast of Reason and the flow

"SPENCER ROANE, Esq., one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals, and Chairman of the Electoral College, presided. ROBERT TAYLOR, Esq., of Orange, Speaker of the Senate, acted as Vice President. After an elegant and plentiful dinner, the cloth was removed and the following toasts and volunteers were drunk."

Omitting the preceding Toasts, the following was the 14th regular toast on this occasion :

THE UNION OF STATES: THE MAJORITY MUST

THE LATE GEORGIA CONVENTION.

BOM THE COLUMBUS (GEO.) ENQUIRER OF DECEMBER 24 Pleased as we were with the proceedings and ction of the late Convention, we are compelled to remark that there were two little resolutions which, n our opinion, gave the finishing touch to the whole matter. The Preamble and Resolutions were, to be sure, just what they should have been, and still they were what no disunionist desired them to bemoderate, firm, conservative, and in the proper tone and spirit. We hear occasionally of mutterings and grumblings, n a kind of smothered voice, which seems afraid to be heard uttering complaints and speaking of submission; but no man, so far as our information goes, ventures to openly denounce what was done. The business of the Convention was done,

and well done. The people approve, and who shall con-

demn it ? But we were within an ace of forgetting what we started notice. One of our Delegates, Col. McDougald, introduced a esolution, which was adopted, that the members subscribe out of their private funds an amount sufficient to procure a block of marble to be placed in Washington's monument This was right and proper. A block had already been sent on, which would probably have been rejected, on account of the inscription placed upon it by order of the Governor. The members of the Convention then did what highminded and honorable men should have done in thus silently rebuking his Excellency for mingling his low, partisan, sectional feelings, in a matter at once national in its character, and connected with the memory of a man who knew nothing but his whole country, its honor, its interest, and its glory.

The other resolution alluded to was introduced by the Hon ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, requesting the next Legislature to urn over the balance of the thirty thousand dollars, appropri ated for the use of the Convention and not used, to the poor school fund of the State. Our own opinion is that the Legislature can dispose of the public money fully as well in educating the indigent children of the State as by appropriating it to pay the expenses of Conventions which are intended for evolutionary machines to dissolve the Union. It is true, the Convention which has just adjourned was not composed of such materials as was expected by its projectors, and hence it has saved the money, the rights, the reputation, and the interests of the people. May the next one that assembles, if another ever does, be like unto the last, save and except about two short dozen incarnate and ingrained fire-eaters. From the latter may the good sense of the people deliver us now. HENCEPORTH, and FOREVER.

Mr. ALLEN A. HALL, formerly editor of the Republic, has been appointed to superintend the construction of the new custom house at San Francisco. He will start for that point immediately, with a view of removing some embarrassments in the title of land claimed by the Government, and of obtaining the necessary information for the proposed structure. None of the plans submitted have been adopted, and none

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.-Mr. Kennet Loftus an English gentleman, whose name has been recently consected with the subject of Chaldean antiquarian researches. and who is now in the East, assisting in running the boun dary line between Turkey and Persia, writes to a member of the New Castle-upon-Tyne Farmers' Club, describing a discovery he has made that the ancient Chaldeans had a system of under-draining their lands perfectly similar to the improved system now in vogue in England, their draining tiles, which he has found and traced, being of precisely the same form and materials as those used by the British farmers.

Mr. THOMAS H. YEATMAN, one of the most extensive and uccessful cultivators of the grape in this country, has sent to New York, for transmission to the World's Fair, some rich specimens of American Wine, of his own manufacture, which have attained a Western celebrity under the name of Sparkling Ohio Champagne" and "Yeatman's Catawba

MINERAL RICHES OF ARKANSAS. -Mr. SWELL, an accomplished chemist and mineralogist, who has lately been exploring the mineralogical treasures of Arkansas, says he found in the interior and mountainous regions of the State abundant indications of mineral and metallic wealth. He collected a large number of specimens of silver, iron, lead, copper, and zinc, and he reports having seen indications that some of these metals exist in great quantities, and that veins may be worked with much advantage. He also discovered signs of thick, and the quality of the coal is said to be similar to that of Pittsburg, and equal to it in combustibility and calorific

FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE IN MASSACHUSETTS. - A man from Schenectady (N. Y.) came into Springfield and claimed a black woman who resided here, married and with a family, as a slave. She was taken before Geo. Bliss, Esq., where the claim was established according to the law in such cases. The woman was given up as the claimant's property; when several of our benevolent citizens, including DANIEL LOMBARD, Esq., one of our most estimable men, obtained terms, clubbed together, and purchased her of her master. Mr Lombard holds the bill of sale in his possession. The tear of sorrow exhibited by the afflicted woman and her husband, rom whom she was about to be separated, were thus changed to tears of joy, and a more happy pair probably never were seen. This is the operation of the fugitive slave law in Springfield. There was no excitement or disturbance. The aw was allowed to take its course.

[Spring field (Mass.) Republican, December 26.

Two MEN ATTACKED BY AN EAGLE.-The Planter Advocate, published at Macon, Noxubee county, Mississippi says that on Sunday, the 8th ultimo, Mr. Jonathan Henkl and Mr. Adams, of that county, were reclining upon the side of a hill, basking in the genial rays of the sun, when suddenly a large eagle made a swoop and fastened its talons in the breast of Mr. Henkle. A fight immediately ensued between the two young men and the eagle, and after a considerab scuffle, they succeeded in capturing it alive and carried it hom. No damage was done, except that Mr. H. received a slight wound in the breast. It is said to be a very large

The mail stage between Hudson and Albany, (N. Y.) jus after it left Hudson on the 25th, overtook a sleigh embedded in a snow bank, containing a woman, several children, and a quantity of furniture and bedding. The driver, a colored man, was found dead, having been frozen in his seat. The woman and children had been preserved from a similar fate by wrapping themselves up in the bedding.

If a man were to set out by calling every thing by its right name, he would be knocked down before he got to the corner of the street.

AGRICULTURAL.-A person looking at some skeletons an anatomical museum the other day, asked a young doctor present where he got them. He replied, "We raised them."

Arn .-- An analysis of air taken from jars which had been buried for seventeen centuries in the ruins of Pompeii, was found to be, atom for atom, identical with the air we breathe.

COMMUNICATIONS.

TO THE EDITORS. DECEMBER 27, 1850. Messrs. Entrons : I see in your paper of December 20 mmunication dated at Brattleboro' (Vt.) and signed "A. D." professing to give some account of the passage of the unortunate act of the Vermont Legislature relating to fugitive slaves. The communication contains the following sentence "On Wednesday morning in the Senate Mr. Currier, from Windsor county, a Free-soil Whig, introduced a string of patriotic resolutions, together with this law, which was passed immediately and sent down to the House. So the bill passed and the House adjourned." This passage does not contain a statement, however unit

rtant, that is not entirely erroneous. The bill was not esented on Wednesday, but late on Tuesday. It did not riginate in the Senate, but in the House. It was not subnitted by an individual, but was reported from a committee Mr. CURRIER is not a "Free-Soil Whig," in any worse sense than that in which Mr. WEBSTER or Mr. CHOATE is a "Free-soil Whig," but is thoroughly national, conservative, and patriotic in all his views. And he had no connexion with the bill in question, other than to feel in common with other and leading members of the body to which he belonged, the deepest regret for its inconsiderate passage. If "A. C." had not been so indiscreet as to mention

n connexion with a subject of which he is so entirely ignor ant, I should not have troubled you with this correction The fact which he writes to set forth is most true, to wit, that the bill was submitted in the confusion of the last night of the ession, and was passed, absolutely without consideration, on the part of any body. I should add that Mr. CURRIER did present the resolutions, which were passed by that Legislature, and the conciliatory and patriotic tone of which has been so generally applauded.

NOTE BY THE EDITORS.

The name and residence of the writer of the bove, which accompany the transmission of it to us, guaranty to us its authenticity.

EXPLOSION OF STEAM BOILERS.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

The frequent explosions of steam boilers, and consequent lestruction of the lives and property of our fellow-citizens have reached an extent so frightful that it is the duty of our ublic authorities to interpose some law to step the evil at nce. We can scarcely open a newspaper without having our feelings agonized by accounts of scalded and mangled men, women, and children, who could have no knowledge of, nor control over, the danger to which they were exposed Men of science have failed to discover the original cause of these explosions. The investigations have only proved that they are not imputable to the age of the boilers, nor to deficiency of water in them; nor to any particular form of them nor, in most cases, to neglect of the attendants. Common sense, then, seems to dictate that the defect must be in the material of which the boilers are composed, and the use of cheap and inferior iron should be prevented by law. It is a well known fact that the better quality of American iron is remarkable for its strength and tenacity, and therefore it is eculiarly adapted for boilers. The difference in strength is not readily apparent after the iron is manufactured into boiler plates. Then the only test is experience, which has proved so fatal to thousands of our citizens, and will be to many thousands more, unless some stringent law be interposed for their defence. The existing laws for the inspection of boilers on board of steamboats have no utility. The law should provide a competent inspection of the iron used to make them, and satisfactory evidence should accompany all boiler plates and boilers to show that they were made of good number two American iron. Every plate should be stamped, and penalties be inflicted for counterfeiting the stamps or otherwise evading the law. In making iron of good quality, a due proportion of good ore, coal, and limestone is necessary. By adding ore alone, without any increase of coal or lime, more iron will be produced at less cost; for, excepting the ore, the materials and the price of labor are the same, but the iron will be infe rior. A furnace that can produce seventy-five tons per week of the best iron, will with the addition of ore make ninety tons of second quality; and with more ore it will make one hundred and ten tons of third quality, and with still more ore one hundred and twenty-five tons of fourth quality; and so

and every means to reduce the cost, and our fellow-citizens ence in price between good and bad iron in a boiler of comfor this insignificant sum the lives and property of our citizens

are sacrificed. The number two American iron is the strongest known, and some of it is so tough that it can hardly be fractured. The numbers do not with accuracy indicate the qualities. Iron that would be classed as number two at one furnace might scarcely be ranked as number three at another; but generally number two indicates a good grey crystallized iron, larger crystals, and is not so strong; but it is preferred in single opinion expressed. foundries for fine moulding, because it becomes very liquid when melted. The Scotch number one iron is the best of the very inferior and cheap American iron, and the two together November over the signature R.

make good looking iron, but not strong. Much of the wrought iron imported from England is very cinder piles, that were never thought of when iron commanded a fair price, and it is made for exportation only. It is readily detected by any person acquainted with iron, for it breaks easily and cannot be welded, and the fracture exhibits taken to them. numerous little cells in the interior like cast iron; whereas good wrought iron is always in fibres like threads compacted. extensive coal beds, the strata in some places being quite | Many disasters occur from the use of this bad iron. The writer had a narrow escape from the tongue bolt of his carrisge breaking when going down a hill, and it was found that all the iron work of the carriage was made of this iron, which cost but two and-a-half cents per pound at retail. Such iron should not be admitted into this country at any price.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 28, 1850.

Editors of the National Intelligencer : The following is extracted from an old-fashioned looking letter, written on a foolscap sheet, which comes from staid and respectable old Connecticut. The writer is a quiet country resident, in no way connected with politics, except as a peaceable and uniform voter of the Whig ticket, as his fathers have been before him; and his views, thus unstudiedly set down in the confidence of private correspondence, may not unfairly be upposed to approximate to those of his neighbors around him, and it is not improbable to those of a majority of the quiet citizens of that conservative and highly intelligent State. I have taken the pains to copy them, thinking it possible, under the circumstances, that they might prove not less ineresting to yourselves and your vast and varied community of readers, than labored and argumentative communications.

44 If he earthquake should occur up here in Green's farms it would hardly draw off the attention of any one from South Carolina, though there is a dreadful proximity of the sublime to the ridiculous; for I believe there are many unfiedged

to the ridiculous; for I believe there are many unfiedged heroes down there thirsting for gunpowder glory.

"I like the decided tone of the President's message. It was just what the country needed. I do not like the fugitive slave bill, but it is the law of the land. I doubt whether the South recovers any more slaves by this law than by former enactments." • • "But the law will benefit the North enactments.

In this way: These fugitives will not dare to stop in the free
States, and we shall thus be rid of a class of inhabitants by no means desirable. Every law Congress may pass upon the subject will benefit the North more than the South."

"But the North has agitated the subject too much. The South will in time see their peculiar institution in its true light, and will themselves apply the remedy. I am willing to leave the matter with them." ** "If the Abolitionists would let the law of kindness dwell upon their tongues, they would do more towards the abolition of slavery than they effect by all their exciting speeches, pamphlets, and petitions put together. Our last Bridgeport paper contains a call for a Union meeting, signed by three columns of names. We are all Union men here." TO THE EDITORS.

GENTLEMEN : I am sorry to observe in the Intelligen this morning that you question the propriety of holding the proposed National Union Convention. If we fold our arms and suffer the enemies of the Union to agitate without resistance. I fear they will gather strength, and may ultimately suceed in overthrowing the Confederacy. In my humble judgent, the only successful mode of contending with them is to use their own weapon, "agitation." The Indians, it is well known, subdue the fire of the prairies by fire, and we can only hope to extinguish the flame of civil discord, which factionsts are striving to spread throughout the country, by kindline up a warmer blaze of patriotic devotion to the Union. I wish to see union meetings in every town and hamlet, county and State union conventions, and a grand National Convention of the friends of the Union. We cannot too ofen and in too imposing a manner impress upon the minds of all the blessings and vital importance of the Union. It should be inculcated as a sentiment to be cherished in every American reast, only second to his love and his duty to his God. What Congress has done is deserving of all praise, but to rend r their action effectual it must be sustained by the approving voice of the people in their individual capacity, as members of communities, through the press, from the pupit, in public as-semblages, and in every manner calculated to reach the mind of the nation, so that all may understand that our fellow-citizens as a mass are a law and order loving people, immovably devoted to the Union, resolved to uphold the patriots of the country, and to frown down factionists, disunionists, and Why the proposed Convention should not be as free in ap-

earance from "extraneous influence and party purpose" the meetings and conventions for the same purpose in the States have been, I am unable to perceive, and as to sufficient accommodation for any number that might be drawn together on such an occasion, I think no fears need be entertained. If the large number of extensive hotels and boarding houses should not be able to accommodate all, the doors of the prirate residences of the hospitable citizens of Washington would the most strenuous doing. Or, rather, when any interference be thrown wide open for the welcome and entertainment of strangers who had visited the metropolis for such a holy and

strangers who had visited the metropolis for such a noty and patriotic purpose.

I do not regard your remarks as committing you against the policy of holding a National Union Convention. They seem to me merely intended to cause reflection upon the subject, so that the people, whatever may be their determination, whether in favor or against holding the Convention, may act prudently and understandingly in the premises. I wish you, gentlemen, to reflect further upon this matter, and I am not without hopes that you will not only approve of it, but that you will extend to the promotion of the object your powerful aid.

December 30 1850.

A FRIEND. A FRIEND.

Without being convinced by the above, its inertion is due to the freedom of discussion. Per contra, we offer the following from the Baltimore Patriot:

When the suggestion for this meeting was first proposed we gave it our cordial assent. There was something in the associations of the place, the Capital of the Union, and the recollections which the day, the Birth-day of Washington, would bring up, which could not fail to awaken and strengthen the feeling of attachment to the Union. But, since the suggestion was first made, the signs have all been propitious; the indications of want of affection for the Union have died away before the evidence of attachment to it which has been manifested all over the land; so that now there is not the same reason for holding the meeting as there seemed to be when it was first proposed. Let it therefore be forbone.

The day may come when such an assemblage may be nessary. We will not believe that it will, but it may. There is no such occasion now. The spirit of fanaticism and disunion has been so rebuked by the sober sense of the people every where, that a formidable array like that proposed would only give it importance. It has ceased to be of any respect. Let it remain so .- Balt. Patriot.

TO THE EDITORS.

NEW LISBON, (OHIO,) DECEMBER 23, 1850. Messrs. Gales & Seaton : A letter dated at this place and published in the Intelligencer of the 7th instant, under the title of "The Slave Question in Ohio," has created some stir in certain abolition quarters; and the writer, on account of withholding his name, has been charged with "dodging responsibility." Now, sirs, I can most truthfully assure your readers that the author of that letter had no care to avoid responsibility, nor any fear that his opinions and estimates would not prove substantially true. His name was withheld for reasons in the knowledge of which the public had no in-

But the propriety of longer withholding may be doubted. A charge of unwillingness to take responsibility has been made, the ore may be increased until the iron becomes almost as brittle as glass, while the cost of it will be greatly diminished. In his own mind and create them in the minds of others, among makers of iron at home and abroad, that they use any however, no doubts whatever that they are reliable in the main. On his behalf I may be permitted to say further, that are the sufferers by the bad quality of the iron. The differ- he has long been in the habit of estimating the strength of parties and the result of elections in advance, especially of mon size would not amount to more than twenty dollars, and Ohio; and that the opinions put forth were made up after the most mature reflection and from the most reliable information derived from every portion of the State. And, having received much additional satisfactory information subsequently to the date of that letter, from Columbus and Cincinnati, the present centres of reliable authority for the State, the court in bank, and the State Legislature being in session in the former place, and the Convention for amending the State Constitution in the latter, he could not, if now writing for the first and it is the strongest. Number one is a shade darker, with time upon the same subjects, desire to change or amend a

A call has been made by Mr. WILLIAM DARBY for the

A communication over the same signature, upon " African Trade and Productions," was published in the Intelligencer had. It is said to be made from hard scraps found among old of the 12th instant. In the latter there are two or three clerical errors or omissions, only chargeable to the copyist of the original manuscript; but as these are rather immaterial, their correction is dispensed with, at least till some objection be

> For the reasons set forth, and lest a call be made for the name of the writer of the article last mentioned, I acknowledge myself the author of the several communications re-Respectfully, WM. E. RUSSELL.

AGRICULTURAL GEOLOGY-No. XVII. BY JOSTAN HOLBROOK.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Crystals of quartz are gems. So are numerous other varieties of this most abundant mineral upon our globe. The varieties of agate are very numerous, and some of them among the most beautiful of the gems. They are also very abundant in many places. Crystals of quartz, agates, jaspers, cornelians, amethysts, and other precious stones confined to the quartz family, are so abundant in different parts of the world as to make it easy for any one of the six millions of American families so disposed to procure a cabinet of gems, alike beautiful and useful.

Among lime formations are more than two hundred varieties of crystals. Some of them are not unfrequently combined with quartz crystals. This combination gives increased interest to each. Hence it is easy to procure from calcareous crystals varieties so numerous, rich, and beautiful, as to form a cabinet of lime formations, to be placed by the side of the licious specimens, each increasing the value of the other.

The varieties of granite are so numerous and so different as to furnish specimens of that class of building materials for a cabinet so arranged and labelled as to provide most useful lessons of instruction, and, at the same time, to be admired for their beauty. The marbles, also belonging to the calcareous formations, present several hundred varieties. These are frequently so arranged and combined in tables and other articles of household use as to form objects of great beauty and attraction. They can also be collected and arranged by the younger members of every family into a cabinet of marbles, greatly to their own instruction and the gradification of their friends.

From the granite, hornblend, and lime formations, a collection of building materials may with great case be so arranged and labelled as to form an "architectural cabinet." bining most happily the beautiful and useful. Not less beautiful and useful may be an " agricultural cabinet," composed of minerals most useful to farmers. Such a cabinet may be prepared by every farmer boy in the land within a twelvemonth, if requested or even permitted by his parents.

Surely, no school in the country, or the world, ought to without the various cabinets named, especially as the specimens for them are to be found in connexion with the three principal rocky formations of our globe. They are hence prought within the reach of every body. If they are beautiful and useful, and require little more effort to obtain then than stooping to pick them up, no good reason can probably be given why they should not be possessed and understood by each of the eighty thousand schools and the six million

of families in our Republican Union. Experiments.—Within five years past the New York Experiments.—Within five years past the New York schools have made it a part of their system to prepare specimens of their improvement as "offerings to patriotism." The uniform result is, that the schools and the pupils who armost sbundant in such offerings are also the first in scholar' ship, and especially distinguished by self-respect and orderly deportment. Hundreds of the pupils, by this honorable distinction, have also been sought for to fill places alike respectable, profitable, and useful.

"A Wise and Masterly Inactivity."

PROM A CORRESPONDENT AT SPRINGFIELD, (MASS.) Messrs. Gales & Seaton : These remarkable words are attracting at this time great attention, but not greater than they deserve. The articles which have recently appeared in your columns as to the origin of the expression, appear to me to take altogether too contracted a view of the subject. A few thoughts may be indulged from an old and constant reader of your paper.

The idea conveyed by these words it would be in vain to attempt to trace to its origin. Couched in other words, the idea is found in almost every history; it is probably as old as the human race; for, no doubt, Adam was in many respects a prudent man, and he must have seen many an occasion when non-action was wiser and more prudent than action; when not to do was more likely to accomplish an end than on his part might have prevented the accomplishment of something very desirable to him. No wonder, then, that your correspondents are able to find the same thought expressed in different ways, by many writers in different ages of the world. Every man, every prudent man, regulates his conduct by the Who, then, was the father of this thought, or rather this mode of action—for non-action is, in many cases, virtually the most effective action ' Undoubtedly, Adam.

So much for the general thought or idea expressed by

As to the paternity of these identical words, I am unable to say. I have seen nothing, read nothing, to cause me to believe they are older than Sir James McIntosh. That they were derived from or expressly suggested by expressions in other languages, I believe and shall attempt to show. But what is there that is remarkable in these words? Much. In the first place, they form a concise and pithy expression for a great system of prudential policy. They are also remarkable taken merely as words. Taken separately, and considered philologically, they contain a real and palpable contradiction of meaning-a verbal antithesis; but taken together they present a wonderfully wise and consistent paradox. Thus, the team "masterly" necessarily involves the idea of power; indeed, a tolerable synonym for "masterly" would be powerful. Now, the idea of power involves the idea of motion exertion, action. For what is powerful that is not in exercise? We have then in this expression a descriptive word-"masterly" signifying active, energetic-applied to a noun which signifies rest, quiet, non-action. Here is evidently a contradiction in terms.

But the contradiction or paradox exists only in the words not in the least in the idea; and it was in this sense that Mr. Calhoun used the expression. He meant to convey the idea that, if our Government would abstain from positive action, the very end which was desired would be accomplished by circumstances—that the object aimed at would be the inevitable result of circumstances and causes then in operation. Action by the Government might not, in his opinion would not, be wise, and as the object desired would be compassed without the action of the Government, "inactivity" on its part would not only be "powerful," but wise. Occasions for the application of this wise rule now exist, and will never be wanting in our own Government so long as we live under

the compromises of the Constitution. Having said thus much, allow me very briefly to state that there is in one of the Latin poets an expression so nearly like the "masterly inactivity" in question, that the one may be almost considered a synonym of the other. What better translation could a tyro give to strenua than powerful, masterly, and what better translation would a tyro be likely to give to inertia then inectivity. Horace says, in his Epistle to Bullatius, (Epist. lib. I. 11.)

Is not the same contradiction in terms manifest here? Strenua inertia! Inertia exercet! Powerful, masterly,

inactivity! Inactivity exercises, constrains, actuates! I appeal to you, Messrs. Editors, whether this expression from Horace is not much more likely to be the type of the identical expression before us than the "cunctando" of Ennius? I am unable to speak of the expression of Demos-

thenes, never having seen it, to my recollection. I conclude as I began, the thought or idea is as old as Prudence herself.

FLORENCE, (ALA.) DECEMBER 18, 1850. Messrs. GALES & SEATON : The pedigree of so fine an expression as that of "a wise and masterly inactivity," it is perhaps worth while to trace with accuracy. In one of Mr. CALHOUR'S most striking speeches that lamented gentleman made most felicitous use of it, and most persons probably think name of the author of a dissertation upon "The Source of that that was its first appearance in our language. In the imported, but it is weak and tender. It is used to mix with the Nile," &cr, published in the Intelligencer of the 28th of Intelligencer of the 5th instant, however, you publish from an exchange paper a paragraph in which JOHN RANDOLPH is credited with the paternity of this admirable phrase, and a passage is given from one of his speeches in 1827, in proof of the claim. But Mr. Randolph is not, any more than Mr. Calhoun, entitled to the merit of having originated it. It is used (without quotation marks) by Sir James Mackintosh, in his "Vindicia Gallica," published in 1790 or 1791. Sperking of the opening scenes of the States General, he says: The Commons, faithful to their system, remained in a wise and masterly inactivity,"-(Miscellaneous Essays, p. 411.) Mr. Van Bunkn's memorable expression, "the sober second-thought of the people," may be found in one of the speeches or essays of FISHER AMES, a man of whom the present generation of Americans know altogether too little.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought." Messrs. Gales & Seaton : In addition to similar acts of indness conferred by you on HIRAM POWERS, be pleased to give room to the following anecdote of the past summer, called to mind by the laudable effort lately made in his behalf n Congress by the very efficient representative of his district in Ohio, Hon. D. T. DISNEY :

The numerous visits to the studio of this artist (flattering, no doubt, but still encrosching much on his time) have been considerably increased by the attraction of his magnificent allegorical figure of "America," on which he has been for some years devotedly concentrating his talents, in order to make it a "chef d'œuvre" of his art, worthy of the subject; make it a "chef d'auvre" of his art, worthy of the subject; and which is now rapidly approaching its completion. Among the appropriate emblems which adorn the work, the "bundle of sticks" occupies a conspicuous place; and, during the late session of Congress, the patriotic feelings of the artist were often much pained by remarks made in his hearing by certain of his visiters, that this significant emblem of the "Union" would soon "burst its heards and hearth of the "Union" would soon "burst its bands and be scattered abroad;" the "wish" being, no doubt, "father to the thought" that our "Giant Republic," which, united, bids proud defiance to a world in arms, shorn of its strength by mad disunion, would soon fall a prey to the *arts*, if not to the *arms*, of those whom its unexampled prosperity renders so insecure in their abused

The writer, however, was soon enabled to assure the artist of a good time coming," through a return to a proper state of feeling and action by the North, South, and West; since then his mallet and chisel have no doubt been rapidly keeping time to our soldiers' favorite quickstep,

YANKEE-DOODLE.

ROM PARIS.—Fine editions, in fine library bindings, of Molicre, Froissart, Madame de Stael Bourdalone, La Fontaine, Monatrelet, Delille, Anguetil, Histoire de France.

Les Evangiles, 1 vol. illustree

L'imitation de Jesus Christ, 1 vol. illustree

illustree
Don Quichotte, 2 vols. illustree, and many others not menben Quichotte, 2 vols. illustrated and bound. Also, a few
tioned here, beautifully illustrated and bound. Imported direct
French Bibles and Testaments finely bound. Imported direct
FRANCK TAYLOR.